

anticè plicâ magnâ transversâ terminatâ ; labro intus valdè dentato-lirato.

Hab. — ?

22. CLANCULUS NODILIRATUS, A. Adams. *C. testâ depresso-turbinatâ, carneolâ, liris transversis nodulosis subdistantibus ornatâ ; interstitiis longitudinaliter tenuissimè striatis ; anfractibus subquadratis, margine umbilici dentato ; columellâ rectâ, anticè tuberculo parvo terminatâ ; labro intus lirato.*

Hab. — ?

MISCELLANEOUS.

Observations on the Breeding of the Nightingale in Captivity.

By H. HANLEY, Sergeant-Major 1st Life Guards.

BEING of opinion that any bird which breeds in this country in a wild state, might, by studying its habits, be brought to do so in a state of captivity, I made preparations during the winter of 1844 for trying the Nightingale, which I considered to be the most retired in its habits of any of our summer visitants. I had a cage made, 4 feet long by 3 feet high, the back, ends and top solid, with a wire front, in which I placed a small Scotch fir-tree, planted in a flower-pot ; to each end of the cage I attached a common-sized canary's breeding-cage, communicating with the large cage by a hole about 4 inches square. I broke a new birch-broom, and filled up the cages at each end, to make them resemble as near as possible the bottom of a thick hedge, and then put in a plentiful supply of withered oak-leaves and moss, of which the nightingale forms its nest, covering the fronts of the two small cages with green glazed calico : I placed the cages high up against a wall facing a landing-window. The following spring, that is, about the latter end of April 1845, I directed a bird-catcher (Blake, of John-street, Tottenham-court-road), who goes to Watford every season to catch nightingales, to bring me a cock and hen bird which had paired naturally ; he did so, and, fortunately, they meated off very readily. By "meating off," I mean that such birds as live on insect food will not peck at dead food until taught to do so, which is effected by enclosing meal-worms in a small glass tube, corked up at each end, and then placing the tube in their food ; on pecking at the worm the beak slips off the glass amidst the food, which they swallow, and will afterwards go to it without the aid of a tube. On finding my birds feed freely in the small cage, in which until then I had confined them, I turned them into the place I had fitted up for them, and was much gratified, about a week afterwards, to observe the hen bird flying about with an oak-leaf in her beak. She made her nest in one of the small cages at the end of the large one ; laid four eggs, of which she hatched and brought up three young ones. During the time she was sitting, the cock sang as well and as loud as I ever heard one in a wild state : when the young were excluded he left off singing, and was most assiduous in assisting to feed and rear them.

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